

[CONFIDENTIAL]**SELECTIONS**

FROM THE

VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS**PUBLISHED IN THE PANJAB,****NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES,****OUDH, CENTRAL INDIA, AND RAJPUTANA,****Received up to 3rd January, 1882.****GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.**

The *Anjuman-i-Punjab* of the 27th December says that a

Circulation
428 copies.

The imprisonment of *pardanashin* woman was lately arrested
pardanashin women in execution of Civil Court
decrees.

Court decree. This case has induced the Government to take into consideration the question whether the state of India is such as to permit the exemption of judgment-debtors from imprisonment in execution of decrees. Looking at the present state of things, it would not be expedient to exempt all judgment-debtors from imprisonment. But we emphatically declare that the imprisonment of a *pardanashin* woman is regarded as a great dishonour by her relatives and wounds the feelings of the whole native community. The Mahajans should have no direct dealings with *pardanashin* women. Some evil-minded persons may purposely lend money to respectable women in order that they may be able to dishonour them. When the Government is very well aware that respectable natives would prefer death to the dragging of their women into public, it is surprising that it has not already made express provision in the

law for the exemption of women, who live behind the pardah, from imprisonment in execution of Civil Court decrees. The law should be amended. At all events no *pardanishin* woman should be imprisoned until the Government arrives at a final conclusion on the point.

The *Najm-al-Hind* (Moradabad) of the 29th December complains that persons who have been appointed to sit as assessors in sessions cases in some districts are quite ignorant and illiterate. When at the end of a trial the Judge asks them their opinion, they fold their hands and tell him that their opinion is the same as his. When he insists upon their expressing their opinion, at the spur of the moment they declare the accused guilty or not guilty as they please. When he asks them the grounds on which their verdict is based, they are at their wits' end. Only respectable, well-to-do, and intelligent men should be appointed assessors.

Circulation,
1,700 copies.

The *Akhbār-i-Ām* of the 31st December says that the Vernacular Press Act has been repealed, but another Act, called the Seditious Publications Act, has been passed. This new Act will apply to all newspapers, whether they are published in vernacular or in English. Moreover, it has been decided to provide in the Post Office Act of 1866 for the prevention of the importation of seditious publications from abroad. We should be thankful to Government for the abolition of Act IX. of 1878. True, another Act has been substituted in its place, but there is a great difference between the two. In the first place, Act IX. of 1878 was calculated to prevent all independent criticism of Government measures, but the new Act is intended only to check the publication of seditious writings. Secondly, the new Act recognises no distinction between vernacular and English papers. The native editors denounced Lord Lytton's mischievous measures, not because they are disaffected, but because

they are well-wishers of the Government. His Government did not tolerate any hostile criticism of its acts. Accordingly he gagged the native press before he carried out his ruinous policy. It is a matter of satisfaction that Lord Ripon has now again granted full liberty to the native press, and for this we cannot be sufficiently thankful to him. It is our earnest prayer that such just and liberal-minded Viceroy may always rule over us. We are not a barbarous people like the Zulus that it should be necessary for the Government to keep us in check by physical force. Lord Lytton held a grand darbar at Delhi and made a display of British power and splendour, but in vain. The natives were not satisfied with his rule. But Lord Ripon's wise and straightforward policy has won the affections of the natives and increased their loyalty towards the Government. What Lord Lytton was unable to accomplish even by freely spending Government money Lord Ripon has done without spending a single rupee. This is really true statesmanship.

The *Rahbar-i-Hind* (Lahore) of the 26th December, in an article headed "The tyrannical conduct of the Ozar of the Panjab,"

Dr. Leitner.

says: We have already several times stated that Dr. Leitner sometimes assaults his subordinates. It appears from the *Koh-i-Nar* that he lately beat the new editor of the English journal of the Anjuman-i-Panjab, who is a native graduate of the Calcutta University. When he did not hesitate to assault a respectable man like the editor, it is not surprising that he should commit assaults on teachers, students and chaprasis. We are inclined to think that overwork has weakened his brain and spoilt his temper. In our opinion he should be relieved of the additional duties of Registrar to the Panjab University and of President of the Anjuman.

Circulation,
517 copies

The *Hindi Pradip* (Allahabad) for December (received on the 31st idem), in an article headed

The Fisher case.

"Was this a fair trial?" on the Fisher case, remarks that it is very difficult for any person

Circulation,
225 copies

to dispense justice with impartiality in any case, especially for a conquering nation, in cases in which their own countrymen and members of the subject nation are concerned. A case in which Mr. Fisher, Pandit Ganga Ram, and his secretary, Mr. Fanthome, were concerned, was lately tried at the High Court. The trial lasted from the 12th to the 16th December. It is not necessary for us to give here the whole story. The reader must have learnt the facts from the proceedings published in the *Pioneer* and the *Indian Herald*. Ganga Ram is really a great fool. He brought some charges against a high officer like a District Collector and afterwards could not prove those charges. Did he not know that there is such a thing as race feeling? Can any sensible man be so foolish as to ruin a countryman of his for the sake of justice? Mr. Fisher stated in Court that he wanted to have an interview with Musammat Dakho in order to warn her against her *kárindas* or agents. There are hundreds of minors whose estates are under the management of widows. But no other Collector ever found it necessary to enter the house of any such widow. Mr. Fisher was really very kind to Dakho! It is said that Musammat Dakho sent a *dali* to him, and he refused to take it. These are very amusing things. Exhibitions and shows are held at many places every year, but no dancing of prostitutes takes place in connection with these shows. Supposing that the natives of Meerut are very fond of dancing parties, it was quite opposed to custom to make dancing-girls sing indecent songs like *sitnas* at such a public meeting. Mr. Fisher says that the subscriptions for the fair were voluntary, but it is well known that natives consider the payment of subscriptions, collected by Government officers, as compulsory as the payment of a tax. Mr. Fisher also stated in Court that the tahsildar told him that he (the tahsildar) had given permission to a Delhi photographer to take photographs of the dancing-girls. This clearly shows that Mr. Fisher is a man of good moral character! Are matters of this kind usually reported by tahsildars to Collectors? It is not difficult to see how far Tahsildar Mukand

Lal's statement is true. Rae Bakhtawar Singh's statement is also very trustworthy! High officers like Subordinate Judges should make true statements. But every person espouses the cause of the strong party. Did it become the tahsildar and the Subordinate Judge to send for the dancing-girls at such a public meeting and to ask them their names, &c.? The decision of the High Court in this case will long be remembered by the public. It is to be regretted that there was no Judge like Sir Walter Morgan or Sir Barnes Peacock to try this case. Mr. Sykes said many good things in his speech. But he made some unjust reflections on "the native mind" and "the native habit." To be sure Mr. Fisher has a "European mind." Thanks for such a "European mind!"

The *Koh-i-Nâr* (Lahore) of the 28th December says that

Circulation,
490 copies.

The *Civil and Military Gazette* and the *Panjab University*.

English newspapers are generally believed to be consistent and firm in their opinion. But look at the *Civil and Military Gazette* of Lahore. It has lately been expressing sympathy with the objects and aims of the Panjab University. But not long ago it was opposed to the educational policy of that university. Such a change of front on the part of our contemporary in regard to the Panjab University appears simply ludicrous, especially when we remember that the editor and the proprietor of the paper are still the same men as before. The *Koh-i-Nâr* has also quoted two extracts from the *Civil and Military Gazette* of the 3rd October, 1880, and the 24th June, 1881, in which the latter expressed its disapproval of the educational policy of the Panjab University, to illustrate the truth of its remarks.

The same paper publishes a communicated article headed

The educational policy of the Panjab University.

"A voice from the frontier of the Panjab." The writer calls upon the Panjabis to awake from their sleep and to protect their country from the calamity with which it is threatened. English

education in the province is going to be nipped in the bud. A foreigner is endeavouring to inaugurate a change in the educational policy that will check all intellectual and social progress, and again plunge the province into that state of ignorance from which it has just emerged. They should hold meetings at all towns in the province and send deputations to the Viceroy, exhorting His Excellency not to sanction the contemplated change.

Circulation,
517 copies.

The *Rahbar-i-Hind* of the 29th December refers to the

The appointment of Babu Daulat Ram as Superintendent of Post-offices in the Simla division.

appointment of Babu Daulat Ram as Superintendent of Post-offices in the Simla division, states that he is the first native who has been appointed to a high post in the Postal Department in the Panjab, and thanks the Director-General of Post-offices for making the appointment.

The *Naiyer-i-Hind* (Allahabad) of the 25th December

The publication of advertisements of contracts given by Government officers.

complaints that advertisements of contracts given by the Commissariat and other departments are at present published only in English papers, and urges that as natives are not generally acquainted with English and do not read English papers, the advertisements should be also published in local vernacular papers. If this were done, the field of competition would be increased and the officers would be able to dispose of contracts on more favourable terms.

Circulation,
115 copies.

The *Ahsan-al-Akhdar* (Amroha) of the 29th December

The Muhammedan religious endowments at Amroha.

states that there are many Muhammedan religious endowments at Amroha, and urges that the Government should appoint a committee, consisting of some respectable Musalmans of the town, which should see that the managers make a proper use of the income of the endowments in accordance with the wishes of the donors. The appointment of members for the committee and the general supervision of

the endowments may be placed in the hands of Saiyid Imdad Ali, C.S.I., Deputy Collector of Moradabad.

NATIVE STATES.

The *Naiyar-i-Asim* (Moradabad) of the 26th December
Sikar, a small native publishes an article communicated
state in Rajputana. by Murad Ali of Ajmere about Sikar,

a small native state situated near Jaipur in Rajputana. The writer complains that great maladministration prevails in this state. The sirdars of this state are notorious rebbers. All the important offices in the state are given on contract for three years. As for instance any person who desires to obtain the post of *kotwal* of Ramgarh, where rich Mahajans live, must pay twenty-five thousand rupees a year to the Raja. The officers who thus obtain posts on contract extort money from the people in a variety of ways, as may be naturally expected.

Circulation,
120 copies.

Circulation,
120 copies.

The same writer in another article published in the same paper also complains of the prevalence of maladministration in Tonk. The Nawab, his prime minister Ubed-ulla Khan, and his other courtiers, are all addicted to the use of spirituous liquors and keep prostitutes. In order that no complaints of maladministration may be published in newspapers, the prime minister has prohibited the correspondents of newspapers from sending any letters to newspapers without showing them to him under pain of banishment from the state. Moreover, he has told the men employed at the post-office at Tonk that they should despatch no letter addressed to the editor of any newspaper without showing it to him.

Circulation,
120 copies.

LOCAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Hindi Pradip* for December praises Mr. Neale, the
The late Muharram at Magistrate of Allahabad, for his cour-
Allahabad. age and firmness in not yielding to
the threats of the Mussalmans and in allowing Pandit Bisham-
bhar Nath, Pleader of the High Court, to parade his marriage

Circulation,
225 copies.

procession in the town in the late Muharram. If the Magistrates in other districts also showed such firmness on such occasions, the Government would not be considered weak and the vile Musalmans would not be able to oppress the Hindus. We don't know of any law that prohibits the celebration of Hindu marriages during the Muharram.

The same paper, referring to the next Magh fair which is about to be held at Allahabad, states that there will be a very large gathering of pilgrims on this occasion and asks if this year also the management of the fair will be placed in the hands of the same man. It is not difficult to see that a Musalman officer cannot make proper arrangements for the comfort of Hindu pilgrims. This fair is a place where the pilgrims are robbed by the Government servants, the shopkeepers, and the Pragwals to their hearts' content.

Circulation,
517 copies.

The editor of the *Koh-i-Núr* prosecuted by the editor of the *Anjuman-i-Panjab* for defamation.

The *Rahbar-i-Hind* of the 29th December states :—We have heard with deep regret that the editor of the *Anjuman-i-Panjab* has instituted a criminal suit for defamation against the editor of the *Koh-i-Núr*. The improper policy which some of our local contemporaries had adopted was sure to lead to bad results. The conduct of the *Anjuman-i-Panjab* itself has not been free from blame. Editors always impress upon the people the importance of peace and union and advise them to abstain from resorting to courts of law as far as possible. We ask Dr. Leitner and Munshi Nisar Ali, the editor of the *Anjuman-i-Panjab*, whether the prosecution of the editor of the *Koh-i-Núr* by the latter is calculated to encourage this union. All our contemporaries should take a warning from this and refrain from indulging in improper language.

Circulation,
80 copies.

The *Akmal-al-Akhdar* (Delhi) of the 27th December, in its local news column, says that three European soldiers lately went from Delhi to a village called Basant for shooting. They intended to shoot

peacocks, but perhaps the cultivators prohibited them from doing so. On this they fired at them. One man was killed and one or two others were wounded. The soldiers fled to Palam, and thence they returned to Delhi by railroad. The villagers pursued them to Delhi and had them arrested by the police. We anxiously wait for the decision of the Court in this case.

The *Sitara-i-Hind* (a new paper started at Moradabad) of Muhammad Rizwan Ali Khan of Moradabad. the 30th December urges that the Government should bestow some high post on Muhammad Rizwan Ali Khan of Moradabad. The editor says that he is descended of a high family and is a man of good manners and has received a good education. His great-grand-father was Nawab Azmat-ulla Khan. His father was Nawab Rafi Ali Khan, who was unfortunately suspected to be a rebel in 1857 and was blown from a gun. His estate, valued at three or four lakhs of rupees, was confiscated by Government. The Government has granted pensions to the descendants of some rebels and has bestowed posts on those of some others. The case of Muhammad Rizwan Ali Khan is deserving of consideration.

LIST OF PAPERS EXAMINED.

No.	NAME.	LOCALITY.	LANGUAGE.	MONTHLY, WEEKLY, OR OTHERWISE.	NAME OF PUBLISHER.	DATE OF PAPER.	DATE OF RECEIPT.	CIRCULATION.
1	<i>Afsub-i-Hind</i>	Jallandhar,	Urdu	Weekly	Barkat Ali	Decr. 31st	1881-82.	...
2	<i>Afsub-i-Panjab</i>	Lahore	Ditto	Bi-weekly	Divan Buta Singh,	" 26th & 30th	Jany. 2nd Decr. 29th & 2nd Jany., res- pectively.	...
3	<i>Agra Akhbar</i>	Agra	Ditto	Weekly	Khwaja Yusuf Ali,	21st	" 28th	225 copies.
4	<i>Ahwal-ul-Akhbar</i>	Amroha	Ditto	Ditto	Ali Husain Khan	" 22nd & 29th	" 28th & 3rd Jany., res- pectively.	115 "
5	<i>Akhbar-i-Am</i>	Lahore	Ditto	Bi-weekly	Mukund Ram	" 24th, 28th, & 31st.	" 28th, 1st, & 3rd Jany.	1,700 "
6	<i>Akhbar-i-Tamannadi,</i>	Lucknow,	Ditto	Weekly	Puran Chand	24th	29th	125 "
7	<i>Ahwal-ul-Akhbar</i>	Delhi	Ditto	Ditto	Fakhr-al-din	" 27th	" 31st	80 "
8	<i>Aligarh Institute Gazette.</i>	Aligarh	Urdu-Eng- lish.	Bi-weekly	Golab Rai	" 27th & 31st	" 29th & 2nd Jany., res- pectively.	276 copies (in- cluding 68 co- pies taken by Govt.)
9	<i>Anjuman-i-Panjab</i>	Lahore	Ditto	Weekly	Mir Nisar Ali	" 27th	" 31st	425 copies (in- cluding 200 copies taken by Govt.)
10	<i>Arya Darpan</i>	Shahjahan- pur.	Hindi-Urdu,	Bi-monthly,	Bakhtawar Singh	For November & Jany. 2nd December.	...	420 copies.
11	<i>Bhadrat Bandha</i>	Aligarh	Hindi	Weekly	Tota Ram	Decr. 2nd	Decr. 30th	147 "
12	<i>Dab-e-i-Qaisari</i>	Bareilly	Urdu	Ditto	Thakur Prasad	" 24th	" 29th	225 "

13	<i>Dabul-i-Sikandri</i> , Rampur ...	Ditto	...	Ditto	Muhammad Husain,	26th	...	...	410	"
14	<i>Delhi Punch</i> ...	Ditto	...	Ditto	Husein Ali	"	...	" 30th	225	"
15	<i>Guldasta-i-Benares</i> , Benares ...	Ditto	...	Ditto	Fida Husain	"	22nd & 1st	" 30th & 3rd	115	"
							Jany.	Jany., res-pectively.		
16	<i>Gurmukhi Akhbar</i> ...	Gurmukhi	...	Lahore	Gurmukh Singh	28th	...	Jany. 2nd	300	"
17	<i>Hindi Pradip</i> ...	Hindi	...	Allahabad	Balkrishan Bhat	For Decr.	...	Decr. 31st	225	"
18	<i>Jaipur Gazette</i> ...	Ditto	...	Jaipur	Mahabir Prasad	Decr. 28th & 31st	...	Jany. 1st & 3rd	188	"
19	<i>Jalesar Akhbar</i> ...	Urdu	...	Jalesar	Vajih-al-din	30th	...	respectively.		
20	<i>Jalsai-i-Tir</i> ...	Ditto	...	Meerut	Rae Ganesh Lal	Jany. 1st	...	2nd	50	"
21	<i>Karamah</i> ...	Ditto	...	Lucknow	Muhammad Yaqub	Decr. 26th	...	" 29th	250	"
22	<i>Kashi Patrika</i> ...	Hindi-Urdu	...	Benares	Baleshwar Prasad	"	...	Jany. 1st	725 copies (in-cluding 370 copies taken by Govt.)	"
23	<i>Kavi Vachan Sudha</i> , Ditto ...	Hindi	...	Ditto	Chintamani Rao	26th	...	2nd	350 copies.	"
24	<i>Khair Khud-i-Aalam</i> , Delhi ...	Urdu	...	Delhi	Mir Hasan	"	...	Decr. 28th	90	"
25	<i>Khair Khud-i-Pan-Gujran-wala</i> , ...	Ditto	...	Gujran-wala	Brij Lal	"	...	Jany. 2nd	600	"
26	<i>Kab-i-Nar</i> ...	Ditto	...	Lahore	Jawwad Ali	"	28th & 31st	Decr. 30th & 2nd	490 copies (in-cluding 86 copies taken by Govt.)	"
27	<i>Lawrence Gazette</i> ...	Ditto	...	Meerut	Saiyid Jamil-al-din	"	21st & 28th	" 28th & 3rd	365 copies.	"
								Jany., res-pectively.		
28	<i>Mardir Gazette</i> ...	Hindi-Urdu	...	Jodhpur	Gobardhan Das	26th	...	30th	100	"
29	<i>Mashir-i-Qaiser</i> ...	Urdu	...	Lucknow	Ghulam Muhammad	27th	...	29th	200	"
30	<i>Mishir-i-Nawaz</i> ...	Ditto	...	Bijnor	Muhib-ul-lah	31st	...	Jany. 2nd	90	"
31	<i>Mulla-i-Nar</i> ...	Ditto	...	Cawnpore	Nabi Baksh	29th	...	Decr. 31st	82	"
32	<i>Nayer-i-Azam</i> ...	Ditto	...	Moradabad	Amjad Ali	26th	...	" 30th	120	"
33	<i>Nasir-i-Hind</i> ...	Ditto	...	Allahabad	...	"	25th & 1st	Jany. 3rd		"
							Jany.			

List of papers examined—(concluded),

No.	NAME.	LOCALITY.	LANGUAGE.	MONTHLY, WEEKLY, OR OTHERWISE.	NAME OF PUBLISHER.	DATE OF PAPER.	DATE OF RECEIPT.	CIRCULATION.
34	Najmal Akhbar	Etawah ..	Urdu ..	Weekly ..	Ruhullah Khan ..	Decr. 29th & 1st Jany. 1881-82. Jany. 27th	1881-82. 2nd & 3rd respectively. Decr. 29th	200 copies.
35	Najmal Hind	...	Ditto	Ditto	Awatâr Krishna ..	" 27th	Decr. 29th	...
36	Nasim-i-Agra	Moradabad ..	Ditto	Ditto	Jamna Das ..	" 23rd	" 31st	325 "
37	Nasim-i-Hind	Agra ..	Ditto	Ditto	Ambika Prasad ..	" 27th	" "	106 "
38	Nâr Afshan	Fatehpur, ..	Ditto	Ditto	Rev. E. M. Wherry, ..	" 29th	" "	700 "
39	Nur-ul-Akbar	Ludhiana, ..	Ditto	Bi-monthly, ..	Roshan Lal ..	Jany. 1st	Jany. 2nd	120 copies (including 48 copies taken by Govt.)
40	Nur-ul-Anwar	...	Ditto	Weekly	Nabi Baksh ..	Decr. 31st	Decr. 31st	337 copies.
41	Oudh Akhbar	Cawnpore, ..	Ditto	Daily	Sheo Narain ..	" 28th to 3rd Jany.	" 28th to 3rd Jany., respectively.	715 copies (including 90 copies taken by Govt.)
42	Panjabi Akhbar	...	Ditto	Bi-weekly	Muhammad Azim ..	21st	30th	300 copies.
43	Panjab Punch	Lahore ..	Ditto	Weekly	Fateh-al-din ..	" 27th	Jany. 1st	150 "
44	Patiala Akhbar	Ditto ..	Ditto	Ditto	Nikhi Kesh ..	" 26th	Decr. 29th	300 "
45	Prince of Wales Gazette.	Patiala ..	Ditto	Ditto	Rae Ganeshi Lal ..	" 26th	" 31st	50 "
46	Rajshahi Akhbar	Meerut ..	Ditto	Ditto	Divan Chand ..	" 24th	" 28th	600 "
47	Rajshahi Hind	Sialkot ..	Ditto	Bi-weekly	Nadir Ali Shah ..	" 26th & 29th	" 28th & 3rd Jany., respectively.	517 "
48	Rahimabad Akhbar	Lahore ..	Ditto	Weekly	Bishan Sarup ..	" 19th & 26th	" 30th	110 "

49 Sabha Kapurthala ... Kapurthala, Ditto
 50 Sajjan Kirti Sudha- Udaipur ... Hindi

Ditto ...
 Ditto ...
 Sharf-ul-din ...
 Banarsi Dhan ...

... 29th ...
 ... Jany. 1st ...

49	Sabha Kapurthala ...	Kapurthala	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	Sharf-ul-din	...	29th	...	Jany. 1st	...	...	...
50	Saijan Kirti Sudha- kar.	Udaipur ...	Hindi	...	Ditto	...	Banshi Dhar	...	" 25th	...	Decr. 30th	...	225	"
51	Shola-i-Tar	Cawnpore,	Urdu	...	Ditto	...	Haider Ali	...	" 27th	...	" 29th	...	325	"
52	Sitar-i-Hind	Moradabad	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	Autar Kishen	...	" 30th	...	Jany. 2nd	...	...	"
53	Tahrib-al-Asar	Sitapur ...	Ditto	...	Monthly	...	Manni Lal	...	Jany. 1st	...	" 3rd	...	300	"
54	Tutiya-i-Hind	Meerut ...	Ditto	...	Weekly	...	Wilayat Ali	...	Decr. 16th	...	Decr. 23rd	...	...	"
55	Victoria Paper	Sialkot ...	Ditto	...	Tri-weekly	...	Gyan Chand	...	" 22nd, 24th, 26th & 28th.	...	" 28th, 30th & 2nd Jany. respectively.	...	900	"
56	Vrit Dhara	Dhar ...	Marathi	...	Weekly	...	Harl Bhaskar	...	" 26th.	...	Jany. 1st	...	125	"
57	Weqya Alam	Ghazipur,	Urdu	...	Ditto	...	Siraj-ul-din Ahmad,	...	" "	...	Decr. 29th	...	250	"

ALLAHABAD, }
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PRIYA DAS, M.A.,

Govt. Reporter on the Vernacular Press of Upper India.

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